

House File 317 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 317

BY SHEETS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the display of the golden rule in public
2 school classrooms.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **279.70 Golden rule — legislative**
2 **findings and declaration — display in classrooms.**

3 The general assembly finds and declares all of the
4 following:

5 1. Article IX, 2nd, section 3, of the Constitution of
6 the State of Iowa states, in part, that the general assembly
7 shall encourage, by all suitable means, the promotion of
8 intellectual, scientific, moral, and agricultural improvement.

9 2. The leading moral precept for a civil society has been
10 expressed by various philosophies and religions for millennia
11 and is often called the golden rule, as set forth in paragraphs
12 "a" through "g".

13 a. Confucianism, circa 557 BC, Analects 15:23:

14 What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others.

15 b. Buddhism, circa 560 BC, Udanavarga 5:18:

16 Hurt not others with that which pains yourself.

17 c. Judaism, circa 1300 BC, the Torah, Leviticus 19:18:

18 Thou shalt Love thy neighbor as thyself.

19 d. Hinduism, circa 3200 BC, Hitopadesa:

20 One should always treat others as they themselves wish to be
21 treated.

22 e. Zoroastrianism, circa 600 BC, Shast-na-shayast 13:29:

23 Whatever is disagreeable to yourself, do not do unto others.

24 f. Christianity, circa 30 AD, the King James Bible, Matthew
25 7:12:

26 Whatsoever ye would that others should do to you, do ye even
27 so to them.

28 g. Islam, circa 570-632 AD, the Prophet Muhammad, pbuh,
29 Sahih Muslim:

30 None of you have faith until you love for your neighbor what
31 you love for yourself.

32 3. The golden rule, with roots in a wide range of world
33 cultures, is well suited to be a standard that different
34 cultures can ascribe to in resolving conflicts, and the board
35 of directors of each public school district shall require the

1 display of the golden rule in all public school classrooms.

2 EXPLANATION

3 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
4 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

5 The general assembly finds and declares in this bill that the
6 leading moral precept for a civil society has been expressed by
7 various philosophies and religions for millennia and is often
8 called the golden rule, which generally states that one should
9 treat others as one wants to be treated. The bill also cites
10 Article IX, 2nd, section 3, of the Iowa Constitution, which
11 requires the general assembly to encourage, by all suitable
12 means, the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral, and
13 agricultural improvement.

14 The bill declares that the golden rule, with roots in a
15 wide range of world cultures, is well suited to be a standard
16 that different cultures can ascribe to in resolving conflicts,
17 and the board of directors of each public school district must
18 require the display of the golden rule in all public school
19 classrooms.